1	2	3
December, 89	777.60	11.0
December, 90	838.72	7.9

(d) and (e) From above it is seen that although the deposits in the branches of commercial banks functioning in the Kashmir Valley have not decreased, the rate of growth has declined presumably due to the prevailing law and order situation.

(f) and (g) Though the RBI does not intend to close any of the branches, yet they have authorised their Regional Office in Jammu to decide cases of shifting of bank branches on a temporary basis keeping in view the law and order situation and the prevailing exigencies.

Hotline connections in banks

4217. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether there is any proposal to instal hotline connections in the high security risk branches of banks to local police stations; and

(b) if so, when and if not, the reasons therefor ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF FINANCE (SHRI DALBIR SINGH) : (a) and (b) Reserve Bank of India has reported that as per existing instructions, all currency chest branches and high security risk branches of the banks have been advised to have hot-line connections to the nearest local police station. The above instructions are in pursuance of recommendations of the Working Group on Security Arrangements in the banks, which had recommended for the grant of hot-line connections by Post & Telegraph authority liberally between the police station and bank branches, whenever such requests are received. The commercial banks have identified branches for the above purposes and they are in different stages of implementation of the above recommendations.

Export of food products to Kuwait

4218. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state :

(a) whether the export of Indian food products to Kuwait which was temporarily stalled due to the recent Gulf War, has been resumed;

(b) if so, the details of food products being exported at present;

(c) whether the food products are also being exported to other Arabian countries such as Iran, Iraq and Saudi Arabia; and

(d) if so, the details thereof ?

THE DEPUTY MINISTER IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI SALMAN KHURSHEED) : (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) to (d) Food products being exported to Kuwait and other Arab countries such as Iran, Iraq and Saudi Arabia include fresh/processed fruits and vegetables, pickles, chutneys and papads, meat and poultry products etc.

Fall in Income-tax Returns of large incomes

4219. SHRI S. B. SIDNAL : Will the Minister of FINANCE be pleased to state :

(a) the number of income-tax